

**AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:**

Please replace the current Abstract with the following:

**ABSTRACT**

A transparent proxy server is implemented by directing particular client packets to a proxy server that handles communications between the client and an origin server. When a client sends a packet to an origin server, a router transparently redirects the packet to the proxy server by storing the proxy server address in the destination field and the origin server address in the record route options field. The proxy server sends connection setup requests to the origin server and forwards acknowledgement packets to the client. For other requests, the proxy server determines whether the requested information is stored in the proxy server cache. If so, the information is retrieved from the cache; if not, the information is retrieved from the origin server. All acknowledgement and information packets are sent to the client with the origin server address in the source field, making it appear that the origin server sent the packets.

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